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Agency Secretary
Cal/EPA



Department of Toxic Substances Control

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is conducting two public workshops to discuss the February 8, 2006, expiration of regulatory exemptions which allow households and Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Universal Waste Generators (CESQUWGs) to dispose certain universal wastes in the trash.

Existing universal waste regulations allow households and CESQUWGs to dispose of specified universal wastes as nonhazardous solid wastes. Specifically, households and CESQUWGs, until February 8, 2006, may dispose of universal waste lamps, batteries, thermostats containing mercury and universal waste electronic devices in the trash.

At the time the universal waste regulations were adopted, DTSC recognized the inadequacy of the infrastructure for collecting and recycling these wastes from households and CESQUWGs. DTSC created these disposal exemptions to allow sufficient time for the expansion of existing programs and the creation of additional collection and recycling infrastructure.

The objectives of these workshops are as follows:

- To discuss the impacts of the disposal exemption expiration on interested parties and the potential benefits or negative impacts of extending the deadline for one or more of the wastes.
- To provide an opportunity for interested parties to discuss potential regulatory alternatives to extending the universal waste disposal exemptions.
- To collect information on collection infrastructure and recycling capacity.

The workshops are scheduled for:

DATE: October 24, 2005
TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Cal/EPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, 2nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812
Webcast: www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast

Note: Visitors must check-in with security upon entering the Cal/EPA Headquarters Building

DATE: October 26, 2005
TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
LOCATION: DTSC Regional Office – Berkeley
700 Heinz Avenue Suite 200
Berkeley, CA 94710

A video conference connection the October 26, 2005 workshop will be established at the following site:

LOCATION: DTSC Regional Office – Glendale Auditorium
1001 North Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201

Attendees at the remote video conference site will view the workshop on a live closed circuit television monitor and will be able to participate via video conference connection.

All interested parties are invited to participate in one of these public workshops. Please confirm your interest in attending one of the workshops by sending an e-mail notice indicating which workshop you will be attending to Shan Yee at SYee1@dtsc.ca.gov or by calling (916) 323-9219. Special accommodations and travel information may also be requested by contacting Shan Yee.

Interested participants who are unable to attend the workshop at either location may monitor the October 24, 2005, workshop via a live audio webcast. The broadcast link will be available on the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal/EPA) website at www.calepa.ca.gov/broadcast. Questions or comments may be submitted during the October 24, 2005, workshop by sending an email message to auditorium@calepa.ca.gov (this email address is valid only for the duration of the workshop; all other correspondence should be made in accordance with the contact information list at the end of this notice). DTSC staff will monitor emails received and as time allows, read and respond to them aloud.

For more information regarding these workshops, the Hazardous Waste Management Program or specific questions regarding handling requirements for Universal Waste generators, contact Mary Misemer at (916) 323-9618 or via email at MMisemer@dtsc.ca.gov.

If you would like to subscribe to the DTSC listserve for regulatory issues, sign up at www.calepa.ca.gov/listservs/dtsc/.